Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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USIAEA ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF NDA INSTRUMENTATION AND TECHNIQUES FOR IAEA SAFEGUARDS

L. U.S. TECHNICAL STAFF HAS REPORTED ON IAEA SAFEGUARDS MEETINGS ON NDA DURING MARCH AND MAY L978. VON BAECKMANN AND OTHERS FROM OPERATIONS RECOMMEND THAT U.S. PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IAEA SAFEGUARDS (POTAS) BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN HELPING THE AGENCY TO IMPLEMENT APPLICATIONS OF NONDESTRUCTIVE ASSAY. POTAS PROVIDED JOHN FOLEY TO DO THIS UNDER TASK A.3 BUT AFTER HIS ARRIVAL, FOLEY WAS DIRECTED TO ANOTHER KIND OF WORK CONSIDERED BY DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO HAVE UNCLASSIFIED

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HIGHER PRIORITY AT THE TIME. ISPO IS NOW SEEKING A POSSIBLE CANDIDATE TO HELP THE AGENCY IMPLEMENT APPLICATIONS OF NONDESTRUCTIVE ASSAY (TASK A.30).

2. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO RECONFIRM IAEA NEED AS DESCRIBED BELOW. MISSION IS ALSO REQUESTED TO EXPLORE WILLINGNESS OF DEPARTMENT OF SAFEGUARDS TO COMMIT SOME PERMANENT STAFF

TIME TO EFFORT. U.S. TECHNICAL STAFF REPORT THAT THERE IS NEED TO ESTABLISH HOW INSTRUMENTS ACTUALLY ARE BEING, OR WILL BE USED, MEASUREMENTS MADE AND DATA REDUCED DURING INSPECTIONS, INCLUDING ENOUGH DETAIL SO EXPERTS CAN IDENTIFY SOURCES OF MEASUREMENT ERROR AND SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR

WR N PROCEDURES AND TRAINING. SINCE INSPECTORS ARE CALLED ON TO USE NDA EQUIPMENT UNDER TRYING, AND SOMETIMES UNFAMILIAR CIRCUMSTANCES. CONSIDERATION CAN BE GIVEN TO U.S. PREPARATION OF VERY COMPLETE WRITTEN PROCEDURES FOR INSTRUMENTS AND TECHNIQUES. SINCE THE AGENCY IS ALSO WILLING TO CONSIDER THE USE OF SOPHISTICATED INSTRU-MENTATION INSTALLED IN-PLANT, THERE WOULD BE A CORRESPONDING NEED FOR COMPLETION OF DETAILED TEST AND EVALUATION PLANS PRIOR TO DELIVERY OF SUCH EQUIPMENT. FOR ALL INSTRUMENTS U.S. DELIVERS, FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN PROGRAMMED IN ATTEMPT TO CORRECT MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES WHICH ARE TRANSFERED TO IAEA. THIS INCLUDES THE SIMULATION IN U.S. LABORATORIES AND OTHER FACILITIES OF MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES BY IAEA INSPECTORS. HOWEVER. NO FOLLOW-UP COMMENTS FROM ANY INSPECTOR FIELD EXPERIENCE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

3. U.S. PRIMARY CONCERN IS TO IMPROVE IAEA SAFEGUARDS EFFECTIVENESS. INSPECTOR PERFORMANCE CONSIDERED OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE. U.S. DESIRES TO ASSIST IN CORRECTING ANY UNCLASSIFIED

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IDENTIFIED AREAS OF WEAKNESS.

- 4. WILLINGNESS OF SAFEGUARDS TO COMMIT SOME PERMANENT STAFF TIME TO EFFORT OF IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC DIFFICULIIES EXPERIENCED BY INSPECTORS IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF SUCH AN UNDERTAKING. SINCE COST-FREE EXPERTS CAN NOT ACCOMPANY INSPECTORS INTO FIELD, TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED MEMBERS OF AGENCY STAFF MUST PROVIDE INFORMATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE. COST-FREE EXPERT UNDER TASK A-30 CAN COORDINATE EFFORT OF IAEA PERMANENT STAFF TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION.
- 5. DOE AND ISPO ARE TO REVIEW ACTIONS NEEDED FOR PREPARATION OF VERY COMPLETE PROCEDURES FOR NDA INSTRUMENTS AND
 TECHNIQUES. MISSION SHOULD CONTACT DEVELOPMENT AND
 OPERATIONS DIVISIONS AND SEEK TO IDENTIFY MAJOR AND
 PRESSING NEEDS WARRANTING EARLY OR IMMEDIATE ACTION.
 REQUEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION BE CABLED BY COB WED. JUNE
 L4 FOR USE AS INPUT FOR MEETING AT DOE/GERMANTOWN, NEXT
 DAY ON SUBJECT MATTER. VANCE

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REPORTED ON IAEA SAFE TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA To: VIENNA USIAEA Type: TE

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